

northeastern Philadelphia during the fall of 1912, making that year a notable one for its irregular invasion. It arrived as early as September 4, when I observed the first one, which is my earliest record by 21 days, and remained until November 12.

A remarkable feature, to me, about the occurrence of this little *Sitta* here during that fall, was their habit of frequenting water courses fringed with dense growths of giant ragweeds (*Ambrosia trifida*), in which they sought food on the thick stems, petioles and leaves, often feeding close to the ground. I always regarded this nuthatch as a denizen of the forest and its occurrence in these weedy growths surprised me. They exhibited no fear as I entered the weeds, and if I kept quiet, they fed fearlessly within close proximity of me, often only a yard away.

On September 12, I observed in *Ambrosia* weeds along Frankford Creek, at Frankford, seven Red-bellied Nuthatches, four being in sight at one time. This is the largest number of these birds I have ever seen at one time.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Frankford, Phila., Pa.*

**The Acadian Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus littoralis*) at Watch Hill, R. I.**—On the morning of October 30, as I stepped from the house, it was obvious that there was a phenomenal flight of Chickadees (*P. atricapillus*), they were everywhere, in the bushes, hopping over stones in a field, and strung out along a telegraph wire. Some hours later I was walking down a road through some woods, bordered on each side by tangles of vines and bushes, full, of course, of the omnipresent Chickadees. Suddenly close behind me I heard a familiar, hoarse, *tsi'h-a, da'y, da'y*, bringing back memories of days spent in the north woods. I turned quickly around, discovered an Acadian Chickadee about twelve feet away working his way through the vines, calling repeatedly to his comrades, the Black-capped Chickadees, not far away. The dark brown cap, the brownish back and the rufous sides contrasted very markedly with the gray, black and white of *atricapillus*. Even at a distance of 100 feet I found that the Acadian was easily distinguishable from the common species with binoculars. The next day, October 31, a flock of four were feeding in some bushes bordering the golf-grounds. As this was the second record of the occurrence of this species in the state, and there was what might almost be called a flight for so rare a bird, I tried to collect one with a cap and golf-sticks but was unsuccessful, succeeding merely in getting very close. On November 5 several miles away on Napatree Point I saw a single Acadian Chickadee in a little tree near some cottages, and a little farther on two more climbing over a crate. These were the last birds I saw.

When I arrived in New York City, I received interesting confirmation of my observation in that this species had been noted around Boston by several observers in several localities. Recently, I have been informed that they have been reported from Connecticut. Previous to this winter its status in southern New England seems to have been as follows—very rare winter visitor to Boston, one record for Rhode Island, and one for Connecticut.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *New York City.*